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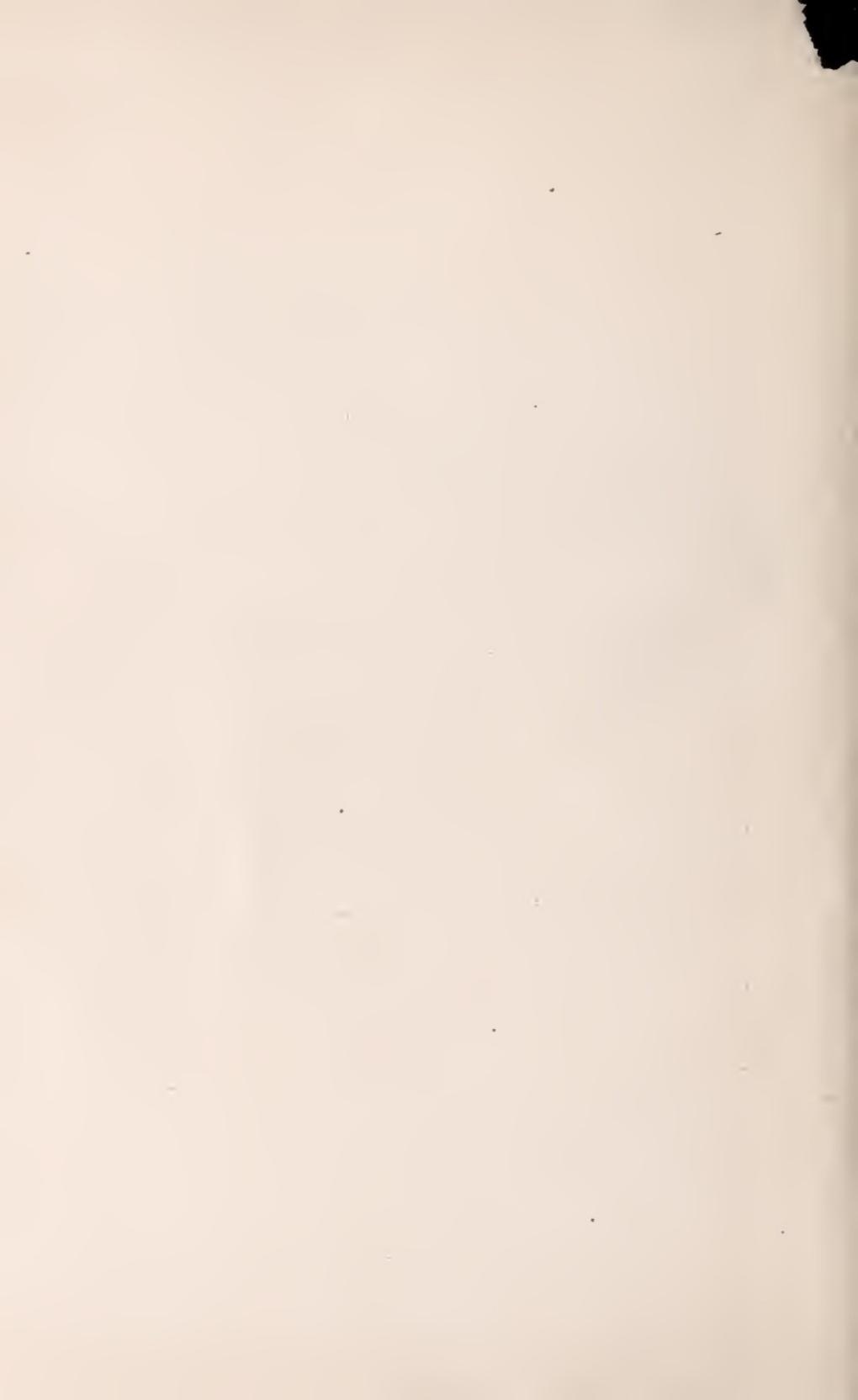
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JAPANESE
CODE OF EDUCATION.



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JAPANESE
CODE OF EDUCATION

PROMULGATED

THE 29TH OF THE 9TH MONTH OF
THE 12TH YEAR OF MEIJI.

(1879).

REVISED

THE 28TH OF THE 12TH MONTH OF
THE 13TH YEAR OF MEIJI.

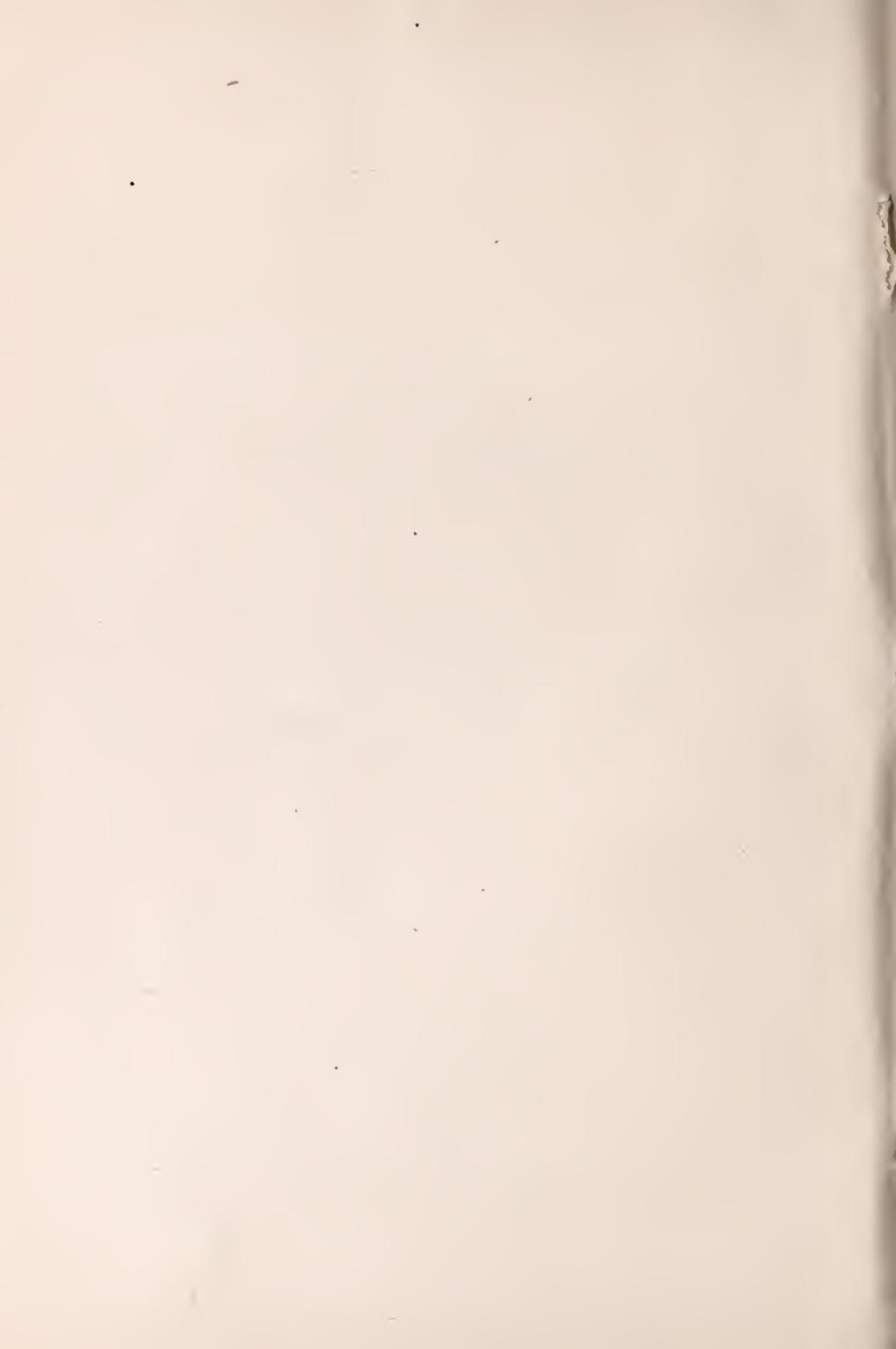
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TRANSLATED & PUBLISHED

by

THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Tōkiō,

THE 28TH OF THE 3D MONTH OF THE
14TH YEAR OF MEIJI.



CODE OF EDUCATION.

ART. I.

The educational affairs throughout the Empire shall be under the control of the Minister of Education and consequently all schools, kindergartens, libraries etc., both of public and private establishments shall be under his supervision.

ART. II.

The schools shall be elementary schools, middle schools, universities, normal schools, professional schools, agricultural schools, commercial schools, industrial schools and other institutions of learning.

ART. III.

The elementary school shall be a school in which elementary education is given to children in the following branches of study: the elements of morals, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, history etc.; and, according to the local conditions, linear drawing, singing, gym-

nastics etc., and the outlines of physics, physiology, natural history etc., shall be added, and especially for the benefit of female pupils, some other branches of instruction, such as sewing, shall also be provided.

N. B. In case of absolute necessity, geography and history may be omitted from the six branches of elementary education first mentioned.

ART. IV.

The middle school shall be a school in which higher instruction is given in the common branches of study.

ART. V.

The university shall be a school in which law, science, medicine, literature and other professional branches of study are taught.

ART. VI.

The normal school shall be a school for the training of teachers.

ART. VII.

The professional school shall be a school in which a professional branch of study is taught.

ART. VIII.

The agricultural school shall be a school in which scientific and practical instruction in agriculture is given.

The commercial school shall be a school in which scientific and practical instruction in commerce is given.

The industrial school shall be a school in which the various branches of industrial arts are taught.

It shall be lawful for any persons to establish any of the schools above enumerated.

ART. IX.

All wards (in cities or towns) or villages shall, under the direction of the governor of fu or ken, severally or jointly establish one or more elementary schools efficient to give education to the children of school age of such wards or villages.

N. B. In case there are any private elementary schools deemed to be efficient substitutes for these elementary schools, and if so approved by the governor of fu or ken, then it shall not be obligatory to establish any other schools.

ART. X.

All wards or villages shall, for the management of their school affairs, organize school

committees within the boundaries of such wards or villages establishing elementary schools severally or jointly; and the kochô shall be among the members of the said committees.

N. B. The question of the number of persons necessary to constitute the said committees and the amount of the salary, if any, which may be allowed to the same, shall be submitted to the consideration of the assemblies of the city districts, wards or villages, and the decision of such assemblies shall be approved by the governor of fu or ken.

ART. XI.

Candidates for the school committees shall be nominated by the people of the wards or villages, up to the number of two or three times the required number, and the committees shall be selected and appointed by the governor of fu or ken from among the number thus nominated.

N. B. The rules governing nominations shall be made by the governor of fu or ken and be approved by the Minister of Education.

ART. XII.

The school committees shall be under the supervision of the governor of fu or ken, and it shall be the duties of the said committees to take

general charge of the attendance of pupils and the establishment and maintenance of schools.

ART. XIII.

The period of eight years, from six to fourteen years of age, shall be fixed as the school age of every child.

ART. XIV.

Parents or guardians shall be responsible for the school attendance of their children of school age.

ART. XV.

Parents or guardians shall cause their children of school age, who have not completed the three years' course of elementary instruction, unless prevented by unavoidable circumstances, to attend schools at least sixteen weeks in each year; and even after completing three years' course of elementary instruction, to attend schools in each year, unless prevented by reasonable causes.

N. B. The rules governing compulsory attendance shall be made by the governor of fu or ken and be approved by the Minister of Education.

ART. XVI.

In the elementary schools, the course of study shall extend over a period of from three to eight years, and the length of the school session shall not be less than thirty two weeks in each year.

N.B. The number of school hours shall not be less than three or more than six hours in each day.

ART. XVII.

In case it is intended to give elementary education to children of school age in any other way than by attending schools or receiving itinerary instruction, such education shall be approved by the gunchô or kuchô.

N.B. The gunchô or kuchô shall cause such children to be examined at the elementary schools in their respective wards or villages.

ART. XVIII.

In case any wards or villages intend, on account of inadequate means for establishing elementary schools, to organize a system of itinerary instruction for giving an elementary education to children, such system of instruction shall be approved by the governor of fu or ken.

ART. XIX.

Schools shall be classed as public and private: those which are established and maintained out of local taxes or at the public expense of the wards or villages in which they are established, shall be called public schools; and those which are established and supported at the private expense of one or more individuals, shall be called private schools.

ART. XX.

Public schools, kindergartens, libraries etc., which belong to the fu or ken establishments, shall be approved by the Minister of Education, both for their establishment and abolition; and those which belong to the ward or village establishments shall be approved by the governor of fu or ken, both for their establishment and abolition.

ART. XXI.

Private schools, kindergartens, libraries etc., shall be established with the approval of the governor of fu or ken, and upon the abolition of the same, a statement to that effect shall be presented to the governor of fu or ken.

N.B. Private elementary schools which are used as substitutes for public elementary schools shall be abolished with the approval of the governor of fu or ken.

ART. XXII.

Rules concerning the establishment and abolition of schools, kindergartens, libraries etc., which belong to the ward or village or private establishments, shall be made by the governor of fu or ken, with the approval of the Minister of Education.

ART. XXIII.

The course of study of elementary schools shall be constituted by the governor of fu or ken, according to the standard outline issued by the Minister of Education, with modifications in accordance with local considerations, and be carried into operation with the approval of the Minister of Education.

N.B. In case the course of study thus constituted by the governor of fu or ken can not strictly be adhered to and some modifications appear necessary, the matter shall be submitted to the Minister of Education by the governor of fu or ken with his opinions, for his approval, before such modifications are permitted.

ART. XXIV.

The expenditures for any public schools which are established by the vote of the fu or

ken assembly shall be paid out of the local taxes, and those of the public schools which are established by the vote of the people of a ward or village shall be paid out of the said ward or village rates.

ART. XXV.

In case schools established and maintained at the expense of any wards or villages require to be aided by the local taxes, the matter shall be submitted to the consideration of the fu or ken assembly and be carried into operation according to the decision of that assembly.

ART. XXVI.

Public school sites shall be exempt from taxation.

ART. XXVII.

All contributions either pecuniary or otherwise which are made for educational purposes shall not be used or appropriated in any way other than that designated by the donors.

ART. XXVIII.

Repealed.

ART. XXIX.

Repealed.

ART. XXX.

Repealed.

ART. XXXI.

Repealed.

ART. XXXII.

Repealed.

ART. XXXIII.

Normal schools shall be established in each fu or ken for training teachers of elementary schools.

ART. XXXIV.

Public normal schools shall grant certificates to their own students who have completed the course of study and passed the final examination.

ART. XXXV.

Public normal schools shall grant certificates to other applicants than their own students when, on examination, they are found to be properly qualified to receive the same.

ART. XXXVI.

Repealed.

ART. XXXVII.

Teachers of either sex shall be over eighteen years of age.

N.B. No persons guilty of immoral conduct shall be employed as teachers.

ART. XXXVIII.

Every teacher of elementary schools shall possess a certificate from a government or public normal school.

N.B. It shall be lawful for any person to be employed as a teacher within the jurisdiction of a fu or ken without a certificate from a normal school, provided he possesses a teacher's licence granted by the governor of the said fu or ken.

ART. XXXIX.

The Minister of Education shall from time to time send out officers of the Department to fu and ken, for the purpose of inspecting the actual condition of educational affairs.

ART. XL.

Every school, either public or private, shall be open to inspection by the officers sent out by the Minister of Education.

ART. XLI.

The governor of fu or ken shall annually prepare a report concerning the actual state of educational affairs within his jurisdiction and forward the same to the Minister of Education.

ART. XLII.

In schools in general, pupils of both sexes shall not be taught in the same rooms.

N.B. In elementary schools teaching pupils of both sexes in the same rooms shall be permitted.

ART. XLIII.

A school fee shall be charged or remitted according to the circumstances of the schools.

ART. XLIV.

Children who have neither had small-pox nor been vaccinated shall not be admitted to the schools.

ART. XLV.

Persons affected by any contagious diseases shall not be admitted to the schools.

ART. XLVI.

No corporal punishments (such as whipping or binding with ropes or cords) shall be inflicted on the pupils in the schools.

ART. XLVII.

Parents or guardians of pupils shall be permitted to attend any and all examinations that may be held in the schools.

ART. XLVIII.

Teachers of any schools which belong to the ward or village establishments, shall be appointed or dismissed by the governor of fu or ken at the request of the school committees.

ART. XLIX.

The salaries of teachers employed in the schools which belong to the ward or village establishments, shall be determined by the governor of fu or ken with the approval of the Minister of Education.

ART. L.

Middle schools, and also professional schools, agricultural schools, commercial schools, industrial schools etc., shall be established in each fu or ken according to the local conditions.



